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CONTACT: Julie Foster
Executive Director
Ravalli County Economic Development Authority
406-880-0216

Marissa Kozel
Montana Department of Commerce
406-841-2772

Ravalli County Receives \$400,000 from Montana Department of Commerce

(HAMILTON) – Today the Montana Department of Commerce presented Ravalli County with a \$400,000 check for workforce training. Glaxo Smith Kline of Hamilton will use the grant to train 53 new employees.

“There is tremendous opportunity for industry here in Montana,” said Governor Brian Schweitzer. “Commerce is helping build new business, and grow the businesses we already have. And we know industry development means a brighter future for all Montanans.”

The grant is made up of federal funding from the Community Development Block Grant - Economic Development Program (CDBG-ED). CDBG-ED is administered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Montana Department of Commerce.

CDBG-ED is designed to stimulate economic development activity, by helping Montana’s private sector create and retain jobs for low to moderate income people.

“A well trained workforce means a productive economy,” said Commerce Director Anthony Preite. “Montanans want opportunity, they want to work, and they want to do it in Montana. CDGB-ED funds help make this happen.”

In 2002 the Montana Department of Commerce awarded Glaxo Smith Kline with a \$725,095 CDBG-ED grant for employee training. In the same year, Commerce gave the company a \$75,615 Workforce Investment Act (WIA) grant, for a water and sewer project.

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